

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

Torrance, California.  
December 4, 1923.

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance was held in the Council Chambers at Torrance, California, December 4, 1923, and was called to order by President Gilbert at 7:00 P.M. The following Trustees were present: Proctor, Smith and Gilbert. Absent: Fitzhugh.

The minutes of the regular meeting of November 20, 1923, were read and approved as read.

The Standard Oil Co. submitted in writing an application for a permit to erect a standard, steel service station on the southwest corner of Cabrillo and Carson, a layout being attached.

Trustee Proctor moved that the above request be granted. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried.

Mr. Fred Palmer submitted a petition looking toward the re-classifying of certain lots in the City of Torrance from Class 1 and 2 to Class 3.

Same was referred to the City Engineer for checking.

Trustee Smith reported the need of a real signal bell on the Jail for the use of the police, maintaining that there was no way of calling a patrolman--especially at night.

Trustee Proctor moved that the Police committee be empowered to purchase whatever is necessary for a police alarm. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried.

Trustee Proctor reported that through traffic was using the street in front of the school house which had been closed to such traffic; but that, since a post had been removed for the comfort of students wishing to park cars during school hours, the through traffic was taking advantage of it.

The Police Chief stated that he was having signs made at the present time for the purpose of directing such traffic.

Trustee Proctor also reported a break in the Sewer line at El Dorado and Arlington, which was referred to the City Engineer.

The City Engineer reported the completion of the paving on Amapola and that the assessment roll had been made, notice of which would be published this week; that no action was necessary at present, nor could any action be taken before the first of the year.

Attorney Briney reported that a suit was pending between the Security Trust & Savings Bank, plaintiff, and the California Chemical Co. and F. E. Carlton, defendants, which involved the Sewer farm; that he had just today become aware of the fact and had had no time to look over the records, but that he thought the suit was being brought by the Trustee holding title to all the property in Torrance being sold by the Dominguez Land Co. The Attorney thought it would be an opportunity to protect the rights of the City that ought not to be let slip by; however, he might be mistaken in his assumptions.

Trustee Smith moved that the Attorney be authorized to represent the City in this suit. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustee Fitzhugh.

Attorney Briney reported that the suit against the City on account of the Fire house and Jail had not been set for trial yet; that he anticipated the bonding company would take care of it before it came to trial; and that the trial would not be set earlier than 10 or 11 months hence.

The application of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Ry. System to cross Madrona Ave. with a spur track was referred to the City Engineer for report at the next meeting.

The matter of the safe or locker for the Jail was discussed, but no conclusion arrived at. Only one price of \$174.00 delivered here had been received so far.

The City Clerk reported Building permits for November amounted to \$120,195.00. \$75,000.00 of which was for oil derricks.

The Chief of Police reported that the dogs were being rounded up either for a license or the pound.

President Gilbert asked if there were any protests against the paving of the 222d- Plaza del Amo or the Manuel- Martina districts as it had been advertised that protests would be heard at 8:00 P.M., December 4, 1923.

No protests had been filed and none were voiced.

Attorney Briney read:

RESOLUTION NO. 152

A RESOLUTION ORDERING THE WORK TO BE  
DONE IN THE 222D-PLAZA DEL AMO DISTRICT

Trustee Proctor moved that Resolution No. 152 be adopted as read, and the same filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustee Fitzhugh.

Attorney Briney read:

RESOLUTION NO. 153

A RESOLUTION ORDERING THE WORK TO BE  
DONE IN THE MANUEL- MARTINA DISTRICT

Trustee Smith moved that Resolution No. 153 be adopted as read, and the same filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustee Fitzhugh.

The City Recorder reported fines for the month of November amounting to \$385.50.

Attorney Briney read:

ORDINANCE NO. 74

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A ROAD FUND FOR USE IN  
CERTAIN DISTRICTS OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE,  
AND ESTABLISHING A BUSINESS LICENSE TAX ON  
ALL WELLS DRILLED FOR OIL IN THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE

Trustee Smith moved that Ordinance No. 74 be approved as read for its first reading. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustee Fitzhugh.

Trustee Smith moved that the City Clerk be authorized to advertise for bids an all applications for pipe line franchises now on file in his office, and give notice that it is the intention of this Board to grant such franchises for the period of 40 years upon the condition that grantee will pay to the City for the franchise at least \$1.00 per rod for each rod of pipe actually laid under such franchise at the time of laying such pipe, and that such pipe lines must be placed in any position in the street or alley as may be designated by the City Engineer. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustee Fitzhugh.

Trustee Proctor moved that the City Clerk be instructed to notify all companies having pipe lines across or along any public streets or alleys in the City of Torrance, to immediately make application for franchise for such lines already laid. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried.

Attorney Briney read:

ORDINANCE NO. 75  
RECLASSIFYING PROPERTY AND AMENDING  
ORDINANCE NO. 51

Trustee Smith moved that Ordinance No. 75 be approved as read for its first reading. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustee Fitzhugh.

Mr. Jessup called attention to the Amapola assessment roll which was ready for examination by the Board or whomsoever wished, stating that protests would be heard January 2, 1924.

Trustee Smith moved that the hearing on the petition for reclassification of property on Carson Street be continued until the next regular meeting. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried.

The bad condition of the crossing at Carson and Cabrillo was referred to the Engineer to take up with the P. E.

Trustee Smith moved that the Board of Trustees hereby declares that it has canvassed the returns from the special bond election held on the 26th day of November, for the purpose of determining whether \$140,000.00 of bonds should be issued for the purchase and extension of the water system, and that it is the finding of such Board that there were cast for such proposition 344 votes and against such proposition 230 votes, and said Board of Trustees does hereby declare that said proposition failed to carry and that the City of Torrance is not authorized to issue said bonds. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustee Fitzhugh.

Trustee Smith moved that this Board of Trustees hereby declares that it has this day canvassed the returns of the special bond election held on the 27th day of November, 1923, for both propositions Nos. 1 and 2; and that on proposition No. 1 for the paving of Western Avenue, said Board finds that there were cast 407 votes in favor of the issuance of said bonds and 235 votes against the same, and said Board of Trustees hereby finds that said proposition failed to carry and the City of Torrance has no authority to issue said bonds; and as to proposition No. 2, for the issuance of \$75,000.00 bonds for a lighting system, there were cast 380 votes in favor of such proposition and 257 votes against the same, and that said proposition failed to carry and that the City of Torrance has no authority to issue bonds therefor. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith and Gilbert.  
 NOES; Trustees: None.  
 ABSENT; Trustee Fitzhugh.

Trustee Smith moved that the President of the Board of Trustees act as Chairman pro tem of the Finance committee until such position is permanently filled. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried.

Trustee Proctor stated that he wanted to bring up something that happened at the boxing contest in the Legion Hall and that was that a boxing contest between two girls had been carded as one of the attractions; this, he thought, was deplorable and he did not approve of same.

It was decided that such matters could be regulated by refusing a permit when objectionable features were to be staged.

Mr. McDowell submitted, through President Gilbert, plans and specifications for a bungalow court on Lot 3, Block 117. As this district would have to be rezoned to accommodate such buildings, the matter was laid over until the next meeting on motion by Trustee Smith, seconded by Trustee Proctor, and a majority vote.

Trustee Smith moved that all bills, properly audited, be paid. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Proctor, Smith and Gilbert.  
 NOES; Trustees: None.  
 ABSENT; Trustee Fitzhugh.

At 9:45 P.M. Trustee Proctor moved to adjourn until Tuesday December 11, 1923, at 4:30 P.M. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried.

Albert H. Bantled  
 City Clerk of the City of Torrance.

Approved:

W. H. Gilbert  
 President of the Board of Trustees  
 of the City of Torrance.